

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 19, 2017

**Media Contact:**

Lisa M. de Hernández  
Public Information Officer  
410.313.6353 M: 410.428.7294  
[ldhernandez@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ldhernandez@howardcountymd.gov)

## **Howard County Health Department Opens High School School-Based Wellness Center**

**Columbia, MD** – The Howard County Health Department, in partnership with the Howard County Public School System, will celebrate the grand opening of the county's first school-based wellness center inside a high school. The Wilde Lake High School's School-Based Wellness Center is one of nine operating within Howard County schools to provide health services to students on campus, allowing them to miss less class time and improve access to health services for hard-to-reach adolescent populations.

These school-based wellness centers provide access to health care for all students regardless of their health insurance status or families' ability to pay and there will be no direct cost to families for these services. The health services provided by a pediatrician and nurse practitioner include: physicals for students without a community health provider, diagnosis and treatment of minor injuries and acute illnesses like strep throat, co-management of chronic health problems like asthma, health education and referrals for additional health services.

**WHO:** Allan H. Kittleman, Howard County Executive  
Dr. Maura Rossman, Health Officer  
Howard County Health Department  
Dr. Michael J. Martirano, Interim Superintendent  
Howard County Public Schools

**WHERE:** Wilde Lake High School  
5460 Trumpeter Road  
Columbia, MD 21044

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 24 at 2:30 p.m.

**WHAT:** School-Based Wellness Center Grand Opening

###